

DCI was on leave.

20 December 1965

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Morning Meeting of 20 December 1965

Mr. Helms was in the chair as Acting DCI.

25X1 [ ] of OCI gave a background briefing on disorders in the Dominican Republic yesterday. Conclusion was that the outlook for stability and disarming rebel elements appears bleak. R. J. Smith noted tasking arrangements to deal with Dominican developments around the clock involving all interested complements of the Agency working through the Operations Center. (See Action 1)

25X1 [ ] noted current CIB items relating to the situation in Indonesia where the army continues to gain the upper hand at Sukarno's expense.

25X1 Kent noted that there are two NIE's for USIB consideration this week. Both have been circulated for telephone approval by USIB. If the NIE's are agreed to, there will be no USIB meeting this week. In the event of approval by USIB, Kent is to meet with the acting chairman of USIB to discuss the papers before they are issued. It was noted that Smith in Cline's absence will be the CIA member of USIB.

Houston noted receipt of a letter from Representative Boggs, Chairman of a Congressional economic subcommittee. Boggs requests a CIA paper on the Soviet economy. This is in accordance with tradition and will be prepared and supplied to the subcommittee.

SECRET EYES ONLY

Approved For Release 2006/11/06 : CIA-RDP80B01676R001500100028-3

25X1 Sheldon for DD/S&T reported on the briefing of Senator Morse concerning [ ] Morse intends to pursue this subject with "intelligence authorities" on his return. CIA and NSA will coordinate on a meeting with the Senator. CIA will take the initiative in making arrangements for a meeting with him.

25X1 Sheldon reported that [ ] launch scheduled for today has slipped until 22 December. He noted that a USAF task team dealing with [ ] is in position on the West Coast.

25X1 [ ]

25X1 Sheldon noted that [ ] is to undergo major surgery.

25X1 Sheldon noted that Wheelon is in Boston [ ] this morning. He will be joined there today by Houston for further discussions with [ ] officials.

25X1 ADDP reported the flight of an [ ] this morning. Return is scheduled for later this afternoon.

25X1 ADDP noted a series of substantive briefing sessions involving [ ] and Representative Moorhead.

Executive Director reported receipt of a letter to the DCI from Tom Hughes commending a recent ORR study of interzonal trade in East Germany.

Executive Director noted the forthcoming meeting of GEHA in the Agency auditorium on 27 January. It was requested that word of this meeting be passed at Agency staff meetings to ensure representation of two or three people from each Agency Office or Division.

Executive Director reported that Mr. Convisser has been designated as the BOB's budget examiner for CIA.

Executive Director reported on the upshot of DCI discussions with BOB on the budget for Fiscal Year 1967. He described the status of funds for the reserve. The President has approved the CIA budget. Mr. Helms stated that it is his view that the budget provides us with sufficient money to do the job.

SECRET EYES ONLY

Approved For Release 2006/11/06 : CIA-RDP80B01676R001500100028-3

A/DCI noted that the Executive Director will be away on 21 and 22 December.

ACTIONS:

1. DD/P is requested to commend [ ] for its good reporting on the DR situation and to request continuation of [ ] sitreps as required. (DD/P - In the course of the day)

25X1

DD/I is requested to ensure publication by the Operations Center of sitreps on trouble spots such as the Dominican Republic during week-end and holiday periods. (DD/I)

2. Houston is requested to prepare a list of the Senator Mansfield Congressional delegation and the itinerary, setting forth places visited during the delegation's recent travel. Houston is further requested to make arrangements with Senator Mansfield for debriefing by Agency officials. It is planned that [ ] and Smith will be involved in this debriefing, but the Acting DCI requests advice and information on this before a meeting takes place. (OGC - Status report by 24 December)

25X1

3. OGC is requested to take steps to ensure that Carl Rowan's article which appeared in the Washington Star yesterday is printed in the Congressional Record. (OGC - Status report by 24 December)

DD/P is requested to send the Rowan article to our stations abroad and to include biographic information on Rowan. (DD/P - In the course of the day)

25X1

5. Those who attend the DCI's Morning Meeting and their alternates or deputies are to keep the Office of the Executive Director as well as the Watch Office advised of leave plans and whereabouts during the next two weeks, which are marked by holiday periods. (All)

~~SECRET EYES ONLY~~

Approved For Release 2006/11/06 : CIA-RDP80B01676R001500100028-3

6. A/DCI noted the convenience and logic of ensuring that the Watch Office is made a focal point for the passing of information to key Agency officials, and he asked that all components use the Watch Office for this purpose to the maximum extent feasible. (All)



L. K. White

25X11

~~SECRET EYES ONLY~~

Approved For Release 2006/11/06 : CIA-RDP80B01676R001500100028-3

CARL T. ROWAN

## Reply to Criticism of CIA

25X11

Pity the poor old Central Intelligence Agency (CIA). It is the perennial whipping boy of columnists and congressmen and of just about every foreign dictator seeking to divert attention from his own crookedness or ineptitude.

As one who knows a bit about CIA (which most of its critics decidedly do not), I get a little sick of seeing it badgered and abused by just about everybody capable of scratching out a sentence or calling a press conference.

Now this may be interpreted as my being in favor of sin (which most people are), but put me on record as saying CIA does a pretty darned good job of protecting not only U.S. security but that of many weaker countries all over the world as well.

True, it makes mistakes. Big ones. But only at about the same rate that the State Department, the Defense Department, the White House or my old agency, the U. S. Information Agency makes boobies.

And you'd be hard pressed to convince me that CIA's ratio of incompetents is any higher than that of the U.S. Senate.

Those who leap to the firing line when they discover it's always open season on CIA seem to ignore one inescapable fact: A good intelligence system has become as crucial to national security as an army, or air force, or an arsenal of powerful weapons.

The foreigners criticizing CIA most (the Russians, President Kwame Nkrumah of Ghana, etc.) know this and nobody expends more effort than they do trying to perfect

their cloak and dagger operations.

What we ought not forget is that in many critical situations these last few years, the United States has been able to make the correct decision to guarantee our security because CIA had secured information that our enemies thought we could not possibly possess. The Cuban missiles crisis is an example.

Having said all this, I must concede that CIA is at a critical point in its history. Not only is it scorned the world over, but the standard device for discrediting the Peace Corps, USIA and other American agencies is to link the to the CIA.

During a recent tour of East Africa and Southeast Asia, it was made clear to me that suspicion and fear of "the CIA" has become a sort of Achilles heel of American foreign policy.

This may seem to justify the attacks on CIA in Congress and elsewhere but the truth is just the opposite. The home-grown critics are 100 times more to blame for the wild and irrational foreign fear of CIA than is the agency itself.

A Ghana official recently was lamenting the fact that the United States denied a food request because Nkrumah published a book attacking CIA and labeling just about every American who ever put foot in Ghana as a "CIA spy."

"Are you surprised that Americans would react unfavorably to this kind of attack?" I asked.

"We are surprised that you would direct your anger at

us," said the Ghana envoy. "Our president took practically everything he wrote out of American books and other publications."

At a dinner in Lusaka, the vice president of Zambia began conversation by asking me to give him an appraisal of "The Invisible Government," a book by two of my journalistic colleagues about so-called CIA cloak-and-dagger operations abroad.

I ducked the question by commenting: "I only wish CIA were capable of half the things for which it is blamed or praised."

Several Zambian cabinet members refused to let me duck, however, and I soon found myself caught in a wild discussion with people who believe fervently that CIA is in the business of overthrowing and installing governments all over the world—without the approval or knowledge of the secretary of state or the President.

I later learned that every top and middle-level Zambian official had been instructed to read "The Invisible Government," Andrew Tully's book "The CIA," and Morris West's new book "The Ambassador."

I'm not naive enough to suggest that newsmen and authors stop writing about CIA. Our society is naturally intolerant of secrecy (which any good intelligence operation requires), so the questioning and criticism will go on.

But it would sure help if some of the critics conceded that, whether we like clandestine intelligence operations or not, they are indispensable in this crazy, crooked, bellicose world in which we live.